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INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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FOR USDEL IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OCON, IAEA

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR GENERAL'S STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL
STORAGE

REF: IAEA VIENNA 5048

1. CLOSER REVIEW OF DIRECTOR GENERAL EKLUND'S PREPARED
SPEECH TO THE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE RAISES PROSPECT THAT
HIS REFERENCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PLUTONIUM STORAGE CON-
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CEPT MIGHT DAMAGE OR AT LEAST COMPLICATE OUR POLICIES ON

THIS MATTER. IN PARTICULAR, THE DG'S REFERENCE TO THIS CONCEPT (PAGE 12 OF HIS STATEMENT) ALLUDES TO THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL STORAGE FOR SURPLUS PLUTONIUM AND DOES NOT RPT NOT INDICATE THE NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL REGIME FOR SPENT FUEL. THIS REFLECTS THE THRUST OF A PRELIMINARY AGENCY STAFF STUDY WHICH EMPHASIZES SURPLUS PLUTONIUM STORAGE AND GIVES MINIMAL CONSIDERATION TO INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE.

2. US POLICY ON INTERNATIONAL STORAGE IS TO HAVE SUCH A REGIME COVER SPENT FUEL AS WELL AS SEPARATED PLUTONIUM, SINCE A REGIME CONFINED TO LATTER COULD HAVE EFFECT OF CONDONING NATIONAL REPROCESSING AS LONG AS THE COUNTRY IN QUESTION AGREES TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNATIONAL STORAGE

SYSTEM. THIS US POLICY WAS REFLECTED IN THE PAPER PRESENTED BY THE US TO THE LONDON NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP IN EARLY JUNE, AND IN SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS WITH IAEA OFFICIALS (SEE REFTEL).

3. DEPT RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTY AT THIS LATE STAGE OF SEEKING TO ALTER PREPARED STATEMENT BY DG. HOWEVER, DEPT BELIEVES THAT THIS EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE IN THE SPIRIT OF COMMON INTEREST IN NON-PROLIFERATION AND ASSURING POSITIVE USG SUPPORT OF AN IAEA-SPONSORED PLUTONIUM STORAGE REGIME. EKLUND MIGHT BE APPROACHED ON THIS MATTER BY CITING OUR CONCERN WITH THE DRAFT STAFF STUDY WHICH DOES NOT PLACE SUFFICIENT EMPHASIS ON SPENT FUEL STORAGE IN CONTRAST TO SEPARATED PLUTONIUM, AND OUR STRONG PREFERENCE THAT HE CONSIDER MODIFYING HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE STORAGE CONCEPT TO ACCOMMODATE A BALANCED INTERPRETATION CONSISTENT WITH US VIEWS.

4. IN PARTICULAR, YOU SHOULD PROPOSE TO EKLUND THAT HE MODIFY HIS STATEMENT ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

(A) REPLACE THE FIRST SENTENCE OF LAST PARA ON PAGE 12 WITH THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE DURING THE NEXT DECADE OR TWO, THE ACCUMULATION OF PLUTONIUM WILL BECOME AN INCREASING WORLDWIDE PROBLEM UNQUOTE. THIS REMOVES REFERENCE TO SEPARATED CONFIDENTIAL

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PLUTONIUM AS THE ONLY FORM OF THIS MATERIAL OF CONCERN, AND ALSO REMOVE REFERENCES TO INEVITABILITY THAT SMALL REPROCESSING PLANTS WILL PROLIFERATE.

(B) MODIFY THE SECOND SENTENCE IN SAME PARA TO READ QUOTE BUT THE STATUTE IN ARTICLE XII.A.5 FORESEES THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL MEASURES SUCH AS THE DEPOSIT WITH THE AGENCY OF SURPLUS PLUTONIUM, INCLUDING SPENT FUEL, IN

STORAGE FACILITIES UNDER AGENCY AUSPICES UNQUOTE. THIS RETAINS FLEXIBILITY TO INTERPRET STATUTE TO PERMIT THE IAEA TO PLAY A ROLE IN AN INTERNATIONAL SPENT FUEL STORAGE ARRANGEMENT.

(C) IN SECOND PARA ON SAFEGUARDS ON PAGE 14, REPLACE LAST PHRASE IN SENTENCE WITH QUOTE AGENCY BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR STORAGE OF PLUTONIUM IN ALL FORMS END QUOTE.

5. IF IT PROVES IMPOSSIBLE TO ALTER THE DG'S STATEMENT, YOU SHOULD OFFER THE FOREGOING US OBSERVATIONS AND RESERVATIONS TO EKLUND AND TO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COUNTRIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LONDON SUPPLIERS GROUP, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, TO OTHER REPRESENTATIVES. HOPEFULLY, THE SPENT FUEL ASPECTS OF STORAGE WILL BE AT LEAST TOUCHED ON GENERALLY IN DR. SEAMAN'S ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

FYI. USG PLANS TO ATTEMPT TO REORIENT THE IAEA STAFF STUDY THROUGH CONTACTS WITH THE AGENCY AND AT THE OCTOBER LONDON SUPPLIER'S WORKING GROUP. END FYI.

6. WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OUR EMPHASIS TO THE FOREGOING, WE ALSO URGE YOU SEEK DELETION OF THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE LAST PARA ON PAGE 20 OF DG STATEMENT, WHICH IS BOTH UNNECESSARY TO HIS POINT AND DAMAGING TO OUR COMMON EFFORTS TO GET NEW NPT PARTIES.

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